



iapd

international association
of plastics distribution

media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IAPD Announces Design Competition Finalists

OVERLAND PARK, Kans. – The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD) is pleased to announce the three finalists in the inaugural IAPD Plastics Application Design Competition, a featured part of the “Celebrating Plastics” theme of the 57th Annual Convention and Plastics Showcase, to be held in Miami, Florida, September 30-October 2, 2013. A distinguished panel of five judges representing the aerospace industry, the computer industry, the media, academia and the plastics industry reviewed all the applications and identified the top three entries:

IAPD distributor member Cope Plastics, Inc. submitted an application for a bearing designed to reduce operating costs and improve production efficiency at a large food products manufacturer. The existing metal part was failing at a highly accelerated rate resulting in metal contamination and damage to other components, which added to the cost of operation and repair. Since the operating conditions would not allow any lubrication due to food contamination and high temperatures as well as the customer’s requirement of a metal-detectable material that could be found using their existing equipment, Ketron MD was the only polymeric solution that met these requirements. This is the first time the material has been used in North America. The manufacturer using this part has created a nutritious food product sold in the United States and many underdeveloped countries, which has substantially benefited the world market.

Nonspec, from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, submitted an application for prosthetic limbs designed for children. The design aims to provide a fully customizable, mass producible limb to people who are unable to afford care. While there are a plethora of devices for adults, few are customized for children because there is a broad range of development to consider. To address this issue, Nonspec has designed a “growing” prosthetic which can provide a scalable device. This product will allow children in developing nations to change their prosthetics fewer times throughout their childhood, develop muscles regularly and overall enjoy a more normal and hands-on lifestyle. The product may also be adjusted for adult patients as a life-long product. Nonspec is working with IAPD distributor member company Total Plastics, Inc., in sourcing material from Quadrant Engineering Plastic Products for the design.

IAPD manufacturer member Vycom submitted an application called Surface Deep created by design students. David Mah and Leyre Asenio, visiting lecturers at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, challenged students to merge modern city architecture with greenscapes that engage the public. Celtec Ultra White is a solid PVC material designed for outdoor applications where resistance to

ultraviolet degradation and impact strength are critical, making it perfect for Mah and Asenio's outdoor garden displays that can accommodate plants requiring sun, shade and moss with different growing requirements. They were also attracted to Celtec's post-industrial content, recycled from scraps in the manufacturing process. The designers agree that the Celtec material has showcased a new way of thinking about structures, one that doesn't choose between the sustainable, the beautiful or the durable. The Surface Deep sculptures bring together all three.

"I am impressed with these top three finalists in the IAPD Plastics Application Design Competition," said IAPD CEO Susan E. Avery, CAE. "Our distributor, manufacturer and fabricator members are involved in many innovative projects, and these entries show three very different ways in which plastics are being used: as a replacement for metal, to help children have a better life and to bring a plant ecosystem into urban environments. This competition is a wonderful way to celebrate all the positive aspects of plastics. Plastics have incredible application stories to tell and the competition will help IAPD promote the uses and benefits of plastics to the broader end-using community."

About the IAPD Plastics Application Design Competition

The theme for the 2013 IAPD Convention and Plastics Showcase is "Celebrating the Power of Plastics." With glamorous and exciting South Beach as the setting, one of the many highlights of the week will be the first-ever IAPD Plastics Application Design Competition, featuring innovative uses of plastics in different applications. The three finalists will demonstrate their designs at a special luncheon on October 2. This event will appeal to those who use plastics, such as the engineering and design community, plus be eye-opening to the general public and the press. It is an opportunity to see the use of plastics in exciting new ways that help solve problems, conserve energy and provide better, healthier products. The first, second and third place winners will be announced at a reception at the end of the Plastics Showcase, which follows the luncheon. The first place winner will receive a prize package valued at \$1,000; the second place winner will receive a prize package valued at \$500; and the third place winner will receive a prize package valued at \$250. Further, the winners' stories will be featured in IAPD's publications and marketing campaigns throughout the year and by *Design News* until the end of the year to further evangelize plastics and their applications.

About IAPD

The International Association of Plastics Distribution (IAPD), established in 1956, brings together distributors, manufacturers, manufacturers' representatives, fabricators, recyclers and service providers in an environment which encourages a free flow of ideas and information that help members build their businesses. Every program and service we provide is designed with the simple goal of helping our members increase profitability. Membership in IAPD is an affordable business investment. IAPD provides training, connections with customers and suppliers and information about developments that impact the industry. What makes IAPD unique is a commitment to educating customers and other key end-users about plastics. In other words, IAPD works with members to build the demand for plastics. Central to this effort is the reinforcement of the value of distribution. For more information, visit www.iapd.org. Connect with IAPD:



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